

## CITY OF JERSEY CITY OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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## Jersey City to Host Human Trafficking Awareness Symposium; Experts to Educate Hotel & Public Safety Personnel in Advance of Super Bowl & NFL to Participate

JERSEY CITY – Mayor Steven M. Fulop announced today that the City of Jersey City is sponsoring a "Human Trafficking Awareness Symposium" from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. on January 10, 2014, at City Hall, 280 Grove Street.

The symposium is being held in advance of Super Bowl XLVIII, which will be played at MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford on Sunday, February 2, 2014. Both teams' players will be staying in hotels in Jersey City, and law enforcement officials have raised concern about the serious issue of human trafficking around large-scale events such as the Super Bowl.

"While the Super Bowl provides a great opportunity for millions of Americans to enjoy the nation's biggest annual sporting event, it is also a time that can pose a great threat to men and women and boys and girls who are the victims of human trafficking," said Mayor Fulop. "As a city several major hotels and host to the two Super Bowl teams, we need to be proactive about educating hotel staff, public safety personnel and the general public about the warning signs of human trafficking and how to report incidences if they are suspected. Our first and foremost concern is always public safety."

To address the issue, the City has brought together several experts from a variety of backgrounds and organizations to educate local hotel management, city inspectors, public safety personnel, and the general public about the scourge of human trafficking.

The experts will discuss the red flags that occur in connection with human trafficking. The symposium will also include sessions on the law and the international code of conduct as sponsored by ECPAT.

All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary to Mayor Steven M. Fulop at 201-547-4836 or 201-376-0699.///